

THE SEVENTH AMENDMENT *by* Krista Dandridge-Barnett

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I AM NOT AN ATTORNEY. THIS IS NOT LEGAL ADVICE. NOTHING MENTIONED SHOULD BE INTERPRETED AS LEGAL ADVISION.

*My interpretation of the [SEVENTH AMENDMENT](#) further below...

[FAIR USE NOTICE](#) - “Section 107 of the Copyright Act provides the statutory framework for determining whether something is a fair use and identifies certain types of uses—such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, and research—as examples of activities that may qualify as fair use”

<https://www.copyright.gov/fair-use/#:~:text=About%20Fair%20Use&text=Section%20107%20of%20the%20Copyright, may%20qualify%20as%20fair%20use>

[SEVENTH AMENDMENT](#) - “In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law”

https://www.law.cornell.edu/constitution/seventh_amendment

[SUIT](#) - to be appropriate or satisfactory or to be in accordance : [AGREE](#)

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/suit>

[AGREE](#) - “to achieve or be in harmony (as of opinion, feeling, or purpose)”

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/agree>

[COMMON LAW](#) - “the body of law developed in England primarily from judicial decisions based on custom and precedent, unwritten in statute or code, and constituting the basis of the English legal system and of the system in all of the U.S. except Louisiana”.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/common-law#:~:text=2%20of%202-,noun,of%20the%20U.S.%20except%20Louisiana>

“The legal reforms implemented under Henry II produced a body of law and custom that formed the basis of the English Common Law”.

https://digitalcommons.lasalle.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1179&context=the_histories#:~:text=Thus%20while%20Henry%20II's%20greatest.increase%20efficiency%20in%20royal%20administration

“The origin of the common law is ancient, with seeds planted in the 1160s by Henry II, who created the King's Bench, a circuit of judges known as the Assizes”.

https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba-cms-dotorg/products/inv/book/417398552/chptr1_1620816_trialadvocacy.pdf

“In law, common law (also known as judicial precedent, judge-made law, or case law) is the body of law created by judges and similar quasi-judicial tribunals by virtue of being stated in written opinions”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_law

JURY - “The word "jury" originates from the Old French word juree, which itself derives from the Latin word juris, meaning law” <https://ballotpedia.org/Jury> **JUREE** - “From Medieval Latin iūrāta, from Latin iūrō (“I swear or take an oath”)” https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/juree#Old_French **CONJURE** - “late 13c., "command on oath;" c. 1300, "summon by a sacred name, invoke by incantation or magic," from Old French conjurer "invoke, conjure" (12c.) and directly from Latin coniurare "to swear together; conspire," from assimilated form of com "with, together" (see con-) + iurare "to swear," from ius (genitive iuris) "law, an oath" (see jurist). The magical sense is from the notion of "constraining by spell" a demon to do one's bidding. Related: Conjured; conjuring. Phrase conjure up "cause to appear in the mind" (as if by magic) attested from 1580s” <https://www.etymonline.com/word/conjure>

RIGHT - “the power or privilege to which one is justly entitled” <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/right>

TRIAL - “mid-15c., "act or process of testing, a putting to proof by examination, experiment, etc.," from Anglo-French trial, noun formed from trier "to try" (see try (v.)). Sense of "examining and deciding of the issues between parties in a court of law" is first recorded 1570s; extended to any ordeal by 1590s” <https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=trial+>

PRESERVED - “kept safe from harm or injury; protected or spared” <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/preserved>

FACT - “1530s, "action, a thing performed, anything done, a deed," good or evil but in 16c.-17c. commonly "evil deed, crime;" from Latin factum "an event, occurrence, deed, achievement," in Medieval Latin also "state, condition, circumstance" (source also of Old French fait, Spanish hecho, Italian fatto), etymologically "a thing done," noun use of neuter of factus, past participle of facere "to do" (from PIE root *dhe- "to set, put")” <https://www.etymonline.com/word/fact>

TRY - “to make an attempt” <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/try>

OTHERWISE - “in another manner; differently” <https://www.dictionary.com/browse/otherwise>

RULE - “The act of ruling; administration of law; government; empire; authority; control” <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/rule>

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I will attempt to deconstruct the [SEVENTH AMENDMENT](#):

“In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law”.

I will quote a part of the Seventh Amendment, *and then* I will supply what I understand the statement to mean:

Partial content from Seventh Amendment: "In suits at common law"

**My interpretation* based upon the definitions as referenced earlier: Where agreements are under already established law created by judges

More content from the Seventh Amendment "... the right of trial by jury shall be preserved"

**My interpretation* based upon the definitions as referenced earlier: the option to having an experiment examined by jurors shall be protected

Other content from the Seventh Amendment - "...and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise re-examined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law"

**My interpretation* based upon the definitions as referenced earlier: "and no action tested by jurors shall be in any other way re-tested in any Court of the United States other than according to the authority of the legal reforms set by King Henry II.

**So, let me put my interpretation all together ----->>> Where agreements are under already established law created by judges, the option to having an experiment examined by jurors shall be protected. And, no action tested by jurors shall be in any other way re-tested in any Court of the United States other than according to the authority of the legal reforms set by King Henry II.*

To learn about the legal reforms set by King Henry II, one may wish to refer to

https://digitalcommons.lasalle.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1179&context=the_histories#:~:text=Thus%20while%20Henry%20II's%20greatest,increase%20efficiency%20in%20royal%20administration

FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR JURY DUTY - "You must report for jury service if you are qualified and you have not been excused or had your service postponed. Any person who fails to respond may be fined up to \$1,500, incarcerated, or both. Carefully follow the instructions on the summons and contact the court if you need help"

<https://www.courts.ca.gov/jury-service.htm#:~:text=You%20must%20report%20for%20jury,court%20if%20you%20need%20help>

INVOLUNTARY - "not done by choice; done unwillingly, or without the decision or intention of the person involved"

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/involuntary>

"An action that is not made by choice. In the body, involuntary actions (such as blushing) occur automatically, and cannot be controlled by choice"

<https://www.cancer.gov/publications/dictionaries/cancer-terms/def/involuntary>

SERVITUDE - "the condition of being a slave or being forced to obey another person".

<https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/us/definition/english/servitude>

INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE - "Involuntary servitude or involuntary slavery is a legal and constitutional term for a person laboring against that person's will to benefit another, under some form of coercion, to which it may constitute slavery".

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Involuntary_servitude#:~:text=Involuntary%20servitude%20or%20involuntary%20slavery,which%20it%20may%20constitute%20slavery

THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT - "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction"

<https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/13th-amendment#:~:text=The%2013th%20Amendment%20to%20the%20United%20States%20Constitution%20provides%20that,place%20subject%20to%20their%20jurisdiction.%22>

Respectfully, Krista Dandridge-Barnett